

Goal Statement

The 2004 Families and Education Levy will support positive child, youth, and family programs that will help all of Seattle's children become school ready, be healthy, and succeed academically.

Role Statement

Seattle's Families and Education Levy will support activities outside of the classroom that enhance student learning and promote social and emotional development.

Levy-funded programs will use culturally competent and inclusive strategies that will have the greatest impact on student success in school, providing opportunities so all children and youth succeed in school, particularly those who need extra support or lack access to services.

Community involvement, including specific geographic neighborhoods, affinity groups, organizations, businesses, associations, community members, parents and school staff will be an essential element of all levy planning, implementation and evaluation of services.

The City and School District will seek opportunities to increase the effectiveness of the Levy by leveraging outside support, activities and resources in a coordinated and collaborative manner.

The City and School District will develop a joint accountability agreement specifying their respective responsibilities and commitments with respect to Levy-funded programs.

Strategic Areas of Investment

The Levy will focus resources in five strategic areas of investment: Early Learning, Out-of-School Time, Family Involvement, Student Health Services, and Support for Middle and High School Age Youth.

All Families and Education Levy programs and services in these strategic areas will be based on best practices, culturally inclusive and competent, and provide opportunities to help all children and youth succeed, particularly those who need extra support or lack access to services. All Levy programs will be held accountable for achieving outcomes consistent with the strategic areas of investment that contribute to students' school success. Quantitative measurements of success, including graduation rates, grade trends and standardized test data, as well as appropriate qualitative performance data, will be monitored. Improved academic achievement for all students when measured by race, ethnicity, income and language ability is a desired outcome for every strategic investment area. To

that end, performance data will be disaggregated by race, ethnicity, income and language ability in sufficient detail to allow the City and School District to fully determine the impact of Levy programs and services on all students served. Strategic investment areas and other desired outcomes include:

Early Learning:

Goal: Young children, birth to six, will gain the skills they need to transition into kindergarten and be successful in school.

Desired Outcomes:

1. Young children will be better prepared to enter kindergarten.
2. Achievement in the primary grades will improve for all students.

Out-of-School Time:

Goal: School-age children and youth will engage in before- and after-school and summer programs that enhance learning and improve their ability to succeed academically.

Desired Outcomes:

1. Students will stay in school and graduate.

Family Involvement:

Goal: Families will receive support and gain the skills they need to help their children succeed in school, including communicating effectively within the family and with school personnel, engaging in school activities, and overcoming external barriers that prevent school success.

Desired Outcomes:

1. More families will be genuine partners in the school system.

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2. Increased student attendance.

3. Improved grades.

Student Health Services:

Goal: Children and youth will have access to high-quality, comprehensive physical and mental health services that will help them improve their health and avoid high-risk behaviors.

Desired Outcomes:

1. Students' health will improve and they will avoid high-risk behaviors.
2. Students will stay in school and graduate.

Support for Middle and High School Age Youth:

Goal: Middle and high school age students and their families will have access to intervention services, skill-building opportunities, and other programs designed to help them be safe, confident, and successful in school.

Desired Outcomes:

1. Students will stay in school and graduate.
2. Students who have dropped out of school will be re-engaged in school or other educational opportunities.